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THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

An Exhibition of work by

FOUR YOUNG BRITISH PAINTERS

MICHAEL
AYRTON

JOHN
MINTON

WILLIAM
SCOTT

KEITH
VAUGHAN

1946

FOUR YOUNG BRITISH PAINTERS

At two periods Britain has made contributions of first importance to the main stream of painting. In our illuminated manuscripts and wall-paintings of the early Middle Ages, there was a vitality and a poetry which has never been surpassed. Relics from the great centres of culture in Winchester, Canterbury and Northumbria remain in sufficient number to proclaim the great glory of British art in these centuries. Then again, in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the great landscape painters, notably Constable and Turner, and our equally great visionary, William Blake, stand out as figures of international importance. International but strongly national. For in the whole of British art there are insular qualities which proclaim our greatness and our weakness alike. It is essentially an intimate, linear and poetic art. It may not have the sense of glory and the monumental quality of the Renaissance art; it has none of the sensuous plastic mastery shown by the French. But it has a constant virtue which the work of these four young painters again reflects.

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN
9 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1

MICHAEL AYRTON

Born in 1921, Michael Ayrton studied art in Paris, Vienna and Brussels. With John Minton, he designed the costumes and décor for Gielgud's *Macbeth* in 1942 and in 1944 designed the ballet *Le Festin de l'Araignée* for the Sadlers Wells Company at the New Theatre. He is now engaged on a third ballet to be shown at Covent Garden. He has illustrated seven books, three of which are not yet published and from 1944–46 was the Art Critic on *The Spectator*. In 1941 he joined the R.A.F. and was invalided out in 1942.

1 Boy with a Cat 1946 *Oil*
19″ × 22¾″ Signed
From a Private Collection

2 The Track to Chanctonbury 1946 *Oil*
20″ × 30″ Signed
From a Private Collection

3 The Tip, Hanley 1946 *Oil*
20″ × 24″ Signed
From a Private Collection

4 Winter Sea 1946 *Oil*
20″ × 27″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 45 *guineas*

5 Landscape with a Pig 1946 *Oil*
20½″ × 30″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 50 *guineas*

6 Industrial Landscape 1946 *Oil*
16″ × 24″ Signed
From a Private Collection

JOHN MINTON

Born 1917 near Cambridge and educated at Reading : came to London to Art School in 1937: in 1938 went to Paris to study painting : travelled to Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and Provence : returned from France at the outbreak of war : collaborated with Michael Ayrton on the décor for Gielgud's *Macbeth* production in 1942 and held a first exhibition of pictures and theatrical designs at the Leicester Galleries in the same year. Served in the Army until 1943, invalided out in this year. In 1945, had an exhibition of gouaches and drawings at the Lefevre Gallery and subsequently an exhibition of drawings at Roland, Browse and Delbanco early this year. At the moment he is working on book illustration and teaching art.

7 WITHERED PLANTS AND LANDSCAPE *Gouache*
19¼" × 24¼"
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

8 CORNISH LANDSCAPE 1945 *Gouache*
19½" × 24¾" Signed
Lent by the Contemporary Art Society

9 THE GLASGOW CHILDREN 1945 *Gouache*
21½" × 29½" Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 20 *guineas*

10 CHILDREN BY THE SEA 1945 *Oil*
37" × 30" Signed
Lent by Mr. Michael Ayrton

11 COLEMAN'S HATCH 1945 *Ink and Water-Colour*
10" × 14½" Signed
Lent by Mr. Michael Balcon

12 COLEMAN'S HATCH 1945 *Ink and Water-Colour*
10½" × 14½" Signed
Lent by Mr. Michael Balcon

13 RECLINING FIGURE 1946 *Oil*
9" × 12"
Lent by the Artist Price 10 *guineas*

WILLIAM SCOTT

Born in Scotland in 1913 of Irish and Scottish parents, and brought up in Ireland. He studied painting at the Royal Academy Schools and lived in France for several years before the war. He has exhibited pictures in Paris and was elected *Sociétaire du Salon d'Automne* in 1938. He held his first one-man show at the Leger Gallery in London in 1942. He served in the Army for nearly four years during which time painting practically ceased. He is now teaching painting at Bath Art School.

14 Woman and Flowers *Oil*
30″ × 18″
Lent by Mr. Herbert Gunn

15 Girl with Flowers 1942 *Oil*
20″ × 24″
Lent by the Hon. Edward Sackville-West

16 Soldier and Girl Sleeping 1942 *Oil*
10″ × 20″ Signed
Lent by Mrs. Patric Dickinson

17 Ivy Leaves 1942 *Oil*
16″ × 20″ Signed
Lent by Mr. M. A. Tachmindji

18 The Sewing Machine 1942 *Oil*
25½″ × 32″ Signed
Lent by Mr. Alan Best

19 The Ribbon 1942 *Oil*
20″ × 24″ Signed
Lent by Lady Herbert

20 Old Welsh Women 1945 *Water-Colour*
13¾″ × 17½″ Signed
Lent by Mr. Michael Ayrton

KEITH VAUGHAN

Born in Sussex in 1912 and educated at Christ's Hospital, he did not go to an Art School because he had to earn a living as soon as he left school, but he always intended to be a painter. When the war came, he went into the Army but found opportunity to paint and discovered the direction in which he wanted to go. The influences in his development of which he is most conscious are Giorgione Breughel, Cézanne, Picasso and Graham Sutherland.

21 Barrack Room, Sleep 1943 *Drawing*
24½″ × 19½″ Signed
Lent by Miss Pamela Harris

22 Roadmaker Carrying Stones 1943 *Gouache*
11¼″ × 9¼″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

23 Landscape with Sheep and Shepherd 1944 *Crayon and Ink*
12¾″ × 10¼″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

24 Woodmen Marking Trees 1945 *Gouache*
11¼″ × 15″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

25 Kite Flying 1945 *Gouache*
14½″ × 11″ Signed
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

26 Seaside Group 1945 *Gouache*
Lent by the Artist Price 15 *guineas*

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